

Applicant: N. Iwata, et al.

U.S.S.N.: 09/990,428

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Page 3

C2
cont

when a light beam whose intensity is controlled to be a predetermined intensity for reproducing a signal is emitted onto the magneto-optical recording medium while the light beam being moved relatively with respect to the magneto-optical recording medium, said first magnetic layer is composed so as to be characterized as having a larger magnetic wall coercivity at a rear part of the light beam spot than a front part of the light beam spot and so as to restrict movement of a domain wall located beyond the light beam spot rear part.

Add new claims 20-25 that read as follows:

C3

20. (NEW) The magneto-optical recording medium of claim 18, wherein the first magnetic layer is composed so that the larger magnetic wall coercivity of the first magnetic layer is characterized as being such as to prevent the domain wall beyond the light beam spot rear part from moving into the light beam.

21. (NEW) The magneto-optical recording medium of claim 18 wherein the first magnetic layer is composed such that when the light beam is emitted onto the magneto-optical recording medium, the domain wall beyond the light beam spot rear part does not move into the light beam and such that another domain wall within the light beam spot front part is moveable within the light beam.

22. (NEW) The magneto-optical recording medium of claim 18, wherein the magnetic wall coercivity at room temperature of the first magnetic layer is less than or equal to 32 kA/m.

C3
could

23. (NEW) The magneto-optical recording medium of claim 18, wherein the second magnetic layer is composed so that a temperature of a portion of the second magnetic layer within the light beam spot rear portion is at or above a Curie temperature.

24. (NEW) The magneto-optical recording medium of claim 23, wherein the second magnetic layer is composed so as to be characterized as having a Curie temperature that is lower than a Curie temperature of the first magnetic layer.

25 (NEW) The magneto-optical recording medium as set forth in claim 18, wherein said first magnetic layer is composed such that, when the light beam whose intensity is controlled to be a predetermined intensity for reproducing a signal is emitted onto the magneto-optical recording medium while the light beam is being moved relative with respect to the magneto-optical recording medium, at the front part of the light beam the domain wall moves and a magnetic domain is enlarged and while at the rear part of the light beam said first magnetic layer is heated to the vicinity of its compensation temperature and the domain wall does not enter into the light beam.

